

The truth about Jehovah Witnesses.

Intro: What we have been studying since we began this study in the book of Revelation is the practical nature of this book. While many things that will unfold in the Tribulation time period will be unlike anything we have experienced in our life time or before, the road to personal victory remains the same. “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth and the life, no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” John 14:6.

As we step into Revelation chapter 7, we need to set the record straight concerning who these 144,000 are and are not! If ever there is a reason to make sure we know our Bible it is to make sure we can readily discern those individuals or groups who distort the Scriptures to establish false doctrines. If you have been saved for any length of time and are not growing in the knowledge of the Bible, then you are a prime candidate for the cults be they Mormons, Seventh Day Adventist, the Moonies, the Jehovah’s Witnesses, and what can I say more about the Middle Eastern cults!

In Chapter seven, verses 1 – 9 we have made it a point to have read all 9 verses though they may seem to be redundant. The point being that the 144,000 individuals are all Jewish converts or completed Jews as they refer to themselves. So, we are going to look at the Jehovah’s Witnesses because of how they have distorted this passage of Scripture more than any other cult.

I. They see themselves as an _____ group of people.

- A. There are two groups of people our missionaries run into around the world that cause a great deal of grief to them and the ministries they set out to establish for the purpose of winning souls.
1. Group #1 – _____ who push experience over the Word of God.
 2. Group #2 – _____ – While their doctrine is a real problem, it is more how they look.
 - a. They dress as would a fundamentalist going out 2 x 2 _____ on doors.
 - b. In this, they are biblical in going out, but in their going out, they spread _____.
 - c. Sadly, because of how they present themselves, we don’t want to be associated with them, so we don’t go as we should.
 - d. Their literature has just enough _____ to keep a hell-bound sinner headed to hell.
- B. They go out and knock-on doors, leave tracts & literature and again, sadly their literature has just enough truth to be plausible to the _____ and the _____.
1. There are around 17 million Jehovah’s Witnesses around the world.
 2. One would be very surprised to know that among this huge number, many are from main line orthodox religions, including Baptist.
 3. Those who change are usually those who are uninformed about God’s truths.
 4. If we remain uninformed, we will not have a _____, and if we don’t have a stand we will easily fall for anything. As the Redeemed of the Lord, Stand firm on God’s infallible Word.

- C. They see themselves as an elite group believing the Book of Revelation is _____ about them.
1. On some of their literature, the pictures of them enjoying a paradise on earth is a picture of their supposed _____.
 2. It is about the 144,000 spending their eternity in heaven as the _____ or the real elite J. Ws.
 3. Should you run across a member and they talk to about their faith,
 - a. Ask them, which of the twelve tribes of Israel did they come from?
 - b. The biblical 144,000 are jews, 12 thousand from each of the twelve tribes listed.
 - c. These 144,000 Jews have been _____ which protects them in the Tribulation from the enemies of the Gospel.
 - d. These 144,000 Jewish Evangelist, will bring about the world's _____ revival of all time.
 - e. Imagine a 144,000 Apostle Paul like evangelist unleashed on a very morally depraved world.

II. Classified as a _____. II Thessalonians' 2:1 – 4.

- A. Why are the Mormons, Seventh Day Adventist, Jehovah's Witnesses classified as cults.
- B. While there are similar reasons, we confine our selves to the J.W's because of our text.
- C. Once you learn of their beliefs you will find strange doctrines coming out of the woodwork.
- D. Charles T. Russell was the founder and organizer of this cult and it always helps to know something about such individuals when assessing the worth or worthiness of following.
 1. He had a reputation for being a strange individual and a shyster which landed him in court.
 2. He wrote a number of books on and about the Bible.
 3. He stated that one could not _____ the Bible without his books. (Catholic church & Mormons)
 4. It was popular to have sermons printed in the newspapers of the day.
 - a. Billy Sunday's sermons appeared in very popular newspapers of his day.
 - b. Charles T Russell also sought to have his sermons & events printed.
 - c. A reporter followed him one day and discovered Russell was lying about his statistics.
 - d. Having adamantly claimed he was well versed in Greek & in a court trial he admitted he did not know Greek let alone read it.
 - e. He was ____ for a "miracle seed scandal, \$1 for a pound of miracle seed with a 5 times yield.
- E. He made numerous _____ prophecies that never came to fruition.
 1. One was that Jesus was going to return in 1894.
 2. The church would be caught up to heaven in 1898 in what we call the rapture.
 3. When a set date doesn't happen you have to _____ it. (Dr. Harold Camping)
 4. The only option at this point is change the _____ by coming up with a new doctrine or lie.
 5. Jesus was supposed to come back in 1914 & it would be a secret only revealing Himself to His _____, meaning the Jehovah's Witnesses and the resurrection would follow in 1918.
 6. 1914 is an important date to them as after that, no one could become a _____ of the elite 144,000.
 7. When you ask a JW today if they are going to heaven their reply is "of course not, I am going to spend eternity on this earth."
 8. They had to explain away the failed prophecy of 1914 by a new revelation or doctrine.

III. What makes a cult a cult?

- A. To discover a cult you must find what their teachings about Christ entails.

- B. They reject the teaching of the _____. This word is not found in Scripture, but the doctrine is! **Gen.1:26**
1. They see this biblical doctrine as a 3 headed freak, there for it does not exist.
 2. As we look at Gen. 2:26 circle these words, (Let us); (Our image); (Our likeness), all plural.
 3. They believe _____ is the origin of this doctrine so they total reject it. **(I John 5:7)**
 4. They reject Jesus Christ as being _____ with God the Father in spite of the Scriptures, **John 17:21-23.**
 5. They believe there is a devil while rejecting the existence of _____.
 6. The 144,000 are secure. The rest are working for a place on _____ for eternity; If they are judged worthy, and if not the body and soul are just annihilated.
 7. They believe in soul sleep in which when one dies, the body being attached to the soul, both are place simultaneously in the ground and the soul sleeps until _____ day.
 8. They pay no allegiance to a flag, military or nation.
 9. They don't believe the Holy spirit is a person, rather a force of God acting in the world – **Ephesians 4:30.** How does one grieve a force? We don't, we grieve a person.
 10. They don't believe anyone can know for sure they are saved until after the judgment. **(I John 5:13)**

IV. JW's and their strange beliefs.

1. No celebrating birthdays, holidays, or anniversaries etc.
 2. They refuse blood transfusions.
 3. They must attend 5 meetings a week to be a good JW.
 4. No voting in any political campaign or serving on a jury.
 5. In the judgment of the nations we are the goats and they are the sheep.
 6. All pastors are the anti-Christ and the church is the devil.
- A. There are more but enough is enough and we ask, "Why would anyone want to be a JW?"
1. They appeal to the lonely, the uninformed, and the ignorant or those who don't like what they call organized religion.
 2. They appeal to those who are looking for answers to their questions.
 3. They appeal to those interested in end-time prophecy. We need balance when studying the Bible
- B. We do have some things we may agree on with them.
1. One doesn't have to be ordained to be an evangelist.
 2. They state the Bible has all the answers, though they have their own translation.
 3. That there are wrong doctrines in orthodox churches.
 4. That the Bible should affect every area of our lives & one should study their Bible.
- C. Here is a strange set of contradictions.
1. They are wrong about Jesus and about hell when we are right on both.
 2. They are full of people with a zeal about lies and we are lazy about getting the truth out. (Rom. 10:2)
 3. We're right on the right points & afraid what others will think and they are not!
 4. They shout it out from the roof tops and whisper from secret places.
 5. the problem is not their zeal, door knocking or dedication, the problem is their zeal to spread their lies while we have the truth and are often ashamed of it, this is the big problem.